

## **2005 Rhode Island Law Day And \$1,000 Essay Contest**

The Rhode Island Bar Association and the Rhode Island Judiciary, with support from Roger Williams University School of Law, the Rhode Island Department of Education and the Rhode Island Police Chief's Association, sponsor Rhode Island Law Day. This year the event will be celebrated on Tuesday, May 3, 2005. During Law Day, judge and attorney teams work with teachers to deliver law related education programs to classrooms throughout Rhode Island. In 2005, Rhode Island Law Day lessons will focus *The American Jury: The Embodiment of Democracy*. All Rhode Island court sessions are suspended on this day to allow active participation by Rhode Island judges and lawyers.

All Rhode Island public, private and independent Middle and Upper Schools (7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades) are invited to enhance their curriculum with well-defined, lesson plan-supported educational programs. This year, program features will include jury charges and jury trials as well as other educational source materials. These will be supported by the one-day, classroom or assembly participation of Rhode Island judge and lawyer Law Day legal teams.

Rhode Island Law Day also features an annual essay contest open to all Rhode Island 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students. The 2005 Rhode Island Law Day Essay Contest topic is *The American Jury: The Embodiment of Democracy*. Students must have a teacher as a sponsor and are asked to submit a 550-word essay. Members of the Roger Williams University School of Law review and judge the 2005 essay contest entries. This year, through the generosity of the Rhode Island Police Chief's Association and Cardi's Furniture, the winning essay author will receive a \$1,000 Scholastic Award in addition to an internship opportunity with a Rhode Island state court judge, and an engraved trophy cup. The winner's school receives a permanent plaque and the annual Law Day Essay Award Trophy to display until the next Contest.

Friday, February 11, 2005 is the deadline application for teacher requests for the 2005 Rhode Island Law Day school programs. Friday April 15, 2005 is the deadline for Law Day Essay Contest entries. For application forms contact: Frederick D. Massie, Director of Communications, Rhode Island Bar Association by telephone: 401-421-5740 or email: [fmassie@ribar.com](mailto:fmassie@ribar.com)

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